

Listing of Claims:

1. (Currently Amended) A method of fabricating a liquid crystal display device, comprising:
 - forming a liquid crystal panel including first and second substrates;
 - forming a ferroelectric liquid crystal layer between the first and second substrates of the liquid crystal panel;
 - cooling the liquid crystal panel to a predetermined temperature so as to produce monostable alignment ~~[[of]]~~ within the ferroelectric liquid crystal; and
 - heating the cooled liquid crystal panel substantially to room temperature.
2. (Currently Amended) The method of claim ~~[[23]]~~ 1, wherein the predetermined temperature includes is in a range around -20°C.
3. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 1, wherein the ferroelectric liquid crystal layer includes an anti-ferroelectric liquid crystal layer.
4. (Currently Amended) The method of claim 1, wherein the cooling produces a smectic phase includes a chiral smectic C phase in the ferroelectric liquid crystal.
5. (Currently Amended) The method of claim 1, wherein the cooling produces a smectic phase includes a chiral smectic C_A phase in the ferroelectric liquid crystal.

6. (Original) The method of claim 1, wherein the first substrate includes a transparent material.
7. (Original) The method of claim 1, further comprising a step of forming a pixel electrode on the first substrate.
8. (Original) The method of claim 1, further comprising a step of forming a thin film transistor on the first substrate.
9. (Original) The method of claim 1, further comprising a step of forming a color filter on the second substrate.
10. (Currently Amended) A method of fabricating a liquid crystal display device, comprising:
 - forming a liquid crystal panel having a first substrate and a second substrate;
 - interposing a ferroelectric liquid crystal layer comprised of liquid crystal molecules, between the first substrate and the second substrate;
 - cooling the liquid crystal layer to a predetermined temperature to form a monostable alignment of the liquid crystal molecules; and
 - heating the cooled liquid crystal layer substantially to room temperature.

Claim 11 (Canceled).

12. (Currently Amended) A method of fabricating a liquid crystal display device according to claim 10, wherein the ~~liquid crystal layer is cooled~~ predetermined temperature is below a smectic phase temperature.

13. (Previously Presented) A method of fabricating a liquid crystal display device according to claim 12, wherein the liquid crystal layer is subsequently heated above the smectic phase temperature.

14. (Currently Amended) A method of fabricating a liquid crystal display device according to claim [[24]] 10, wherein the predetermined temperature ~~liquid crystal layer is cooled to~~ about -20C.

15. (Previously Presented) A method of fabricating a liquid crystal display device according to claim 10, wherein the ferroelectric liquid crystal layer includes an anti-ferroelectric liquid crystal layer.

16. (Currently Amended) A method of fabricating a liquid crystal display device according to claim 10, wherein the cooling produces a smectic phase ~~includes a chiral smectic C phase in the ferroelectric liquid crystal layer~~.

17. (Currently Amended) A method of fabricating a liquid crystal display device according to claim 10, wherein the cooling produces a smectic phase ~~includes a chiral smectic C_A phase in the ferroelectric liquid crystal layer~~.

18. (Currently Amended) A method of improving the contrast ratio of a liquid crystal display device, comprising:

forming a liquid crystal panel having a first substrate, a second substrate, and an interposed ferroelectric liquid crystal layer that is comprised of liquid crystal molecules;

cooling the liquid crystal layer to a predetermined temperature to form a monostable alignment of the liquid crystal molecules;

heating the cooled liquid crystal layer substantially to room temperature; and

passing light through said liquid crystal panel.

Claim 19 (Canceled).

20. (Currently Amended) A method of improving the contrast ratio of a liquid crystal display device according to claim 18, wherein the ~~liquid crystal layer is cooled~~ predetermined temperature is below a smectic phase temperature.

21. (Previously Presented) A method of improving the contrast ratio of a liquid crystal display device according to claim 20, wherein the liquid crystal layer is subsequently heated above the smectic phase temperature.

22. (Currently Amended) The method of claim 1, wherein the ~~liquid crystal panel is cooled~~ predetermined temperature is below a smectic phase temperature.

23. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 1, wherein the ferroelectric liquid crystal layer includes 2-methylbutyl p-[p(decyloxybenzylidene)-amino]-cinnamate (DOBAMBC).
24. (Previously Presented) A method of fabricating a liquid crystal display device according to claim 10, wherein the ferroelectric liquid crystal layer includes 2-methylbutyl p-[p(decyloxybenzylidene)-amino]-cinnamate (DOBAMBC).
25. (Previously Presented) A method of improving the contrast ratio of a liquid crystal display device according to claim 18, wherein the ferroelectric liquid crystal layer includes 2-methylbutyl p-[p(decyloxybenzylidene)-amino]-cinnamate (DOBAMBC).